

**Amendments to the Abstract**

Please replace the paragraph at page 57, lines 2 through 11 with the following amended paragraph:

Tools for implementing employee stock plans including stock options, restricted stock awards and/or and stock purchase plans are provided. ~~The invention comprises a~~ A system is provided that comprises volatile data storage for storing participant information pursuant to a data transfer from a non-volatile database of a third party administrative system; an interface system for interacting with a participant regarding a requested transaction and enabling the participant to select a response pertaining to the employee stock plan; a trading system for conducting individual participant transactions on a public exchange, a communication system that connects a participant to the system; and ~~means for updating~~ an updating system that updates the participant information in the volatile data storage according to the selections and transactions made by the participant.